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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT

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COUNTRY: East Germany

DATE DISTR. 26 October 1954

SUBJECT Introduction of a Dispatcher Service
by the East German Railroads

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**SUPPLEMENT
REPORT NO.**

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

A training course for the railroad dispatcher service was held in Erfurt from 9 June to 6 July 1954. Chief of the course was one Anemüller (fnu); Walter (fnu) and Nagler (fnu) were lecturers in social science; Hofmann (fnu) and Leipnitz (fnu) taught technical subjects. The four lecturers mentioned belonged to the cadre personnel of the Erfurt school. An additional six instructors for specific subjects were assigned by the Ministry of Railroads and RBD Erfurt. The training course in Erfurt was attended by 28 men and 2 women employees of RBDs Berlin, Magdeburg, Halle, Erfurt, and Cottbus. The students were from 19 to 53 years old and were billeted at the Eichhorn boarding house in Erfurt. Seven of the lectures given concerned Marxist-Leninist ideology. A written examination was held on 17 June. Besides these political subjects, technical subjects covering all aspects of railroad operations were taught. Special stress was laid on socialist competition. A written and oral examination was held at the end of the course and four of the students failed to pass the examination. During the reported period, the eighth and ninth dispatcher courses were held at Erfurt. The next dispatcher course was scheduled to start on 26 July. Other dispatcher courses were planned in various cities of the GDR.

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3. Salient features of the dispatcher service are the establishment of a central control over all railroad activities and the elimination of departmental partitions hampering the uniform control and direction of railroad operations; a more efficient organization of the fulfillment of production quotas; scientific evaluation of the conduct of railroad operations; and more efficient planning. The dispatcher service is designed to bring about more efficient and smoother railroad operations under tighter central control, a reduction of time periods required for round trips of rolling stock, and improved labor productivity of railroadmen. It is planned to introduce this dispatcher service in all of the GDR on 1 October 1954. ¹

4. In connection with the dispatcher service, the establishment of a special telephone net within the framework of the railroad telephone system is required.

It was learned that contrary to original plans, the number of telephone extensions allotted to RBDs was increased from 20 to 25, and the number of telephone extensions allotted to railroad sub-districts was increased from 15 to 20. ²

1. Comment The dispatcher service scheduled to be introduced with the GDR railroad system after the Soviet pattern is designed to improve the efficiency of railroad operations. It appears doubtful whether this aim will be reached by this system.
2. Comment. The system reflects the organizational structure of the GDR railroads, which is organized into 8 RBDs and 27 railroad sub-district offices.

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